

## Message Text

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50

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 SCEM-02 SS-20 SSO-00

CCO-00 USSS-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 ACDA-19 IO-15 COME-00 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01

DRC-01 SCI-06 INRE-00 /166 W  
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O 121525Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5164

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JIDDA 4441

PARIS FOR AMBASSADOR AKINS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, MASS, MARR, SA, IS, US, XF

SUBJ: SAUDI THINKING ON U.S. RESUPPLY OF ISRAEL, SAG IN-  
VOLVEMENT IN WAR, AND POSSIBLE USE OF OIL WEAPON

SUMMARY: ACTING DCM IN RIYADH HAS SENT REPORT OCT 12 SUMMARY  
OF WHICH FOLLOWS: SAG DECISION MAKERS CONVINCED U.S. IS OR  
SOON WILL BE RESUPPLYING ISRAEL; EMBASSY URGES POSITIVE  
DECISION ON THIS BE DELAYED AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. SAG CONTINUES  
DELIBERATING ABOUT JOININGWAR;VISIT MAREI WAS TO BRIEF SAG ON  
LIMITED EGYPTIAN WAR AIMS AND TO SOOTHE FAISAL FOR NOT HAVING  
INFORMED HIM PRIOR TO ATTACK. AS FOR OIL, SAUDIS SOMEWHAT

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EMBARRASSED BY KUWAITI INITIATIVE, ALTHOUGH SAG REMAINS CON-

VINCE OF NECESSITY IDENTIFYING SELF WITH ARAB NATIONALISM RE OIL AS WELL AS ON FIGHTING FRONT. ONE CLOSE ADVISOR TO KING NOTED, IN RESPONSE TO STATEMENT THAT OIL EMBARGO WOULD HURT EUROPE FIRST, THAT IT WOULD RESULT IN EUROPEANS PLACING NEEDED PRESSURE ON WASHINGTON AS WELL. END SUMMARY.

1. REGARDING EGYPTIAN ALLEGATION ON U.S. CARRIER INDEPENDENCE, A/DCM IN RIYADH BROUGHT OUR DENIAL TO ATTENTION OF ONLY MEMBER OF DIWAN AVAILABLE AT 1030 (0730Z) OCT 12 (EMBASSY COMMENT: CHARGE PASSED DENIAL TO ACTING FONMIN MAS'UD OCT 12, WHO MADE NO COMMENT) END EMBASSY COMMENT. HAVE ALSO HEARD REPORT--QUOTED BY MORE THAN ONE ARAB HERE AS COMING FROM ME NEWS BROADCASTS THAT 50 PHANTOMS HAVE BEEN STAGED THROUGH CYPRUS FOR UNKNOWN DESTINATION.

2. BRITISH SOURCE CONFIRMS THAT SAG DECISION MAKERS IN MODA AND DIWAN ARE CONVINCED U.S. IS OR WILL SOON SUPPLY REPLACEMENTS. SOURCE EVALUATES THIS CONVICTION AS CONTRIBUTING TO SAG BELIEF THEY MUST ENTER WAR SOON EVEN IF ONLY WITH TOKEN FORCES. (EMBASSY COMMENT: IT COULD BE IMPORTANT TO U.S.-SAUDI RELATIONS THAT ANY POSITIVE DECISION ON RESUPPLY OF ISRAEL BE POSTPONED AS LONG AS POSSIBLE; WOULD HOPE ANY ANNOUNCEMENT ON RESUPPLY NOT TAKE PLACE AS LONG AS IDF CLEARLY HOLDING OWN IN SINAI OR SLOGGING FORWARD ON ROAD TO DAMASCUS--A CITY OF GREAT IMPORTANCE IN ARAB HISTORY, AND OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO FAISAL DUE TO INFLUENCE DR. PHARAON AND OTHER SYRIAN ADVISORS).

3. SAG IS DELIBERATING ABOUT FEASIBILITY OF SENDING MEN BY OTHER THAN VULNERABLE CONVOY TO SYRIAN FRONT. AIRLIFTS OF BASIC INFANTRY UNIT BEING DISCUSSED, WITH AIM OF PREPARING 2,000 TROOPS AT TABUK TO BE ABLE TO MOVE ON TWO HOURS NOTICE; LIGHTNINGS, WHICH REDEPLOYED OCT 11 FROM DHAHRAN, HAVE MOVED ONLY TO TAIF AND NOT TABUK AS FIRST THOUGHT (WHICH LEADS TO CONCLUSION SAG MAY BE FURTHER FROM IMPLEMENTING A HARD DECISION TO ENTER THAN WE THOUGHT).

4. SAG REMAINS WORRIED ABOUT POSSIBLE ISRAELI ATTACK AGAINST VEHICULAR COLUMN AS IT PROCEEDS NORTH THROUGH JORDAN. WOULD POSSIBLE ISRAELI REACTION TO SAG COLUMN CONTRIBUTE TO PULLING JORDAN INTO WAR, ONE SAUDI SOURCE ASKED? STILL UNCLEAR WHAT  
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KIND OF ADVICE SAG HAS BEEN PUSHING ON AMMAN BUT INFERENCE IS THAT IT WILL NOT USE OWN OVERT INVOLVEMENT TO EMBARRASS HUSSEIN, IF THIS CAN BE AVOIDED. BRITISH SOURCE DISCUSSED QUESTION OF HUSSEIN INVOLVEMENT IN DEPTH WITH KEY SAUDI FIGURE AND ARGUED THAT SAG WOULD NOT REALLY WANT TO SEE JORDAN ARMY CHEWED UP. IN ANY CASE HE ADDED, SAG AND HUSSEIN MUST CONSIDER JORDAN'S VALUE IN TYING DOWN AT LEAST TWO OR THREE ISRAELI DIVISIONS AS ALMOST EQUAL TO ENTERING WAR. RECONQUEST OF

JERUSALEM CORRIDOR, HOWEVER, AND OF OLD CITY DOES REMAIN TEMPTING SURROGATE TARGET OF SAG POLICY-THINKERS. THEY TALK OF POSSIBILITY HUSSEIN OPENING A NEW FRONT AND ACQUIRING ENOUGH OF WEST BANK TO SIT AS AN EQUAL AT THE BARGAINING TABLE.

5. VISIT OCT 10 OF SAYED MAREI WAS APPARENTLY LIMITED TO TWO OBJECTIVES: FIRST, TO BRIEF SAG ON WHAT EGYPTIANS INTENDED TO DO AND WHAT THEIR LIMITED GOAL IS. ACCORDING TO ONE SOURCE EGYPTIANS STRESSED THERE NO INTENTION OF CONTINUING WAR IN ATTEMPT TO ELIMINATE ISRAEL; ALTHOUGH THERE IS EVERY INTENT TO REFUSE CEASEFIRE EVEN IF EGYPTIAN-SYRIAN EFFORTS FAIL. EGYPTIAN/ SYRIAN EFFORTS, SAYS SOURCE, AIMED ONLY AT LIBERATION OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, NOT AGGRESSION AGAINST PRE-1967 ISRAEL. FYI: HAVE NOTED REMARKABLE CONSISTENCY IN USE OF THIS ARGUMENT AND IN PARALLEL JUSTIFICATION THAT EGYPT HAD TO DO THIS TO BRING ISRAEL TO ITS SENSES END FYI.

6. SECOND OBJECTIVE OF MAREI VISIT WAS INFERRED BY THIS SOURCE TO BE NEED FOR SADAT TO MAKE STROKINGS AND GENUFLECTIONS TO FAISAL FOR NOT HAVING INFORMED HIM BEFORE THE ATTACK. (FAISAL'S CLOSEST ADVISORS STILL MAINTAIN THEY WERE LEFT COMPLETELY UNINFORMED, AS IF SADAT DID NOT WISH TO INVOLVE SAG.)

7. ON OIL INVOLVEMENT, SAUDIS OBVIOUSLY FINDING KUWAIT INITIATIVE PLACES THEIR OIL POLICY ON USE OF OIL WEAPON IN CURRENT CRISIS FRONT AND CENTER AND THEREFORE AN EMBARRASSMENT AT THIS POINT. FACT YAMANI STILL REMAINING IN HOLDING PATTERN IN VIENNA SUPPORTS THIS. GOOD SOURCE (NOT IN PETROLEUM BUT CLOSE TO KING) CONFIRMS THAT SAG IS, HOWEVER, CONVINCED OF NECESSITY OF SAUDIS IDENTIFYING WITH ARAB NATIONALISM ON OIL AS WELL AS ON FIGHTING FRONT. IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT LIBYA'S CONTINUED STRANGE RELUCTANCE TO ACTIVELY ENTER THIS JIHAD IS HELPFUL TO RIYADH. ARGUMENT ONCE USED THAT U.S. WILL BE LAST  
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TO BE HURT BY SAUDI OIL SLOW-DOWN NOT COMPLETELY ACCEPTABLE TO SAG: ONE OF CLOSEST ADVISORS TO KING SUGGESTED THAT IF OIL WEAPON USED, INTENTION WOULD BE TO SO HIT EUROPE AND JAPAN THAT THESE U.S. ALLIES WOULD PLACE REAL PRESSURE ON WASHINGTON. IF THIS TENDED FRACTURE FREE WORLD ALLIANCE, CITED BY FAISAL HIMSELF AS NECESSARY TO PREVENT SPREAD OF COMMUNISM, SO BE IT. (NOTE THAT IRAQI OIL MINISTER DELIVERED NOTE TO FAISAL OCT 11-12 ACCORDING TO RIYADH RADIO. WE HAVE NO DETAILS BUT MUST PRESUME USE OF OIL MINISTER AS MESSENGER LIKELY CONNECTED WITH COORDINATION AND URGINGS ON USE OF OIL WEAPON.) HORAN

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## Message Attributes

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